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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**WASHINGTON D.C. MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO
ASSAULTING DEPUTY U.S. MARSHALS**

Greenbelt, Maryland - Thomas M. DiBiagio, United States Attorney for the District of Maryland, announced that Kevin Dudley, age 42, of LaPlata, Maryland pleaded guilty today before U.S. District Judge Peter J. Messitte to two counts of assaulting a federal officer with a dangerous or deadly weapon.

According to the statement of facts provided to the court as part of the plea agreement, on April 25, 2003 Dudley was wanted for violating his parole stemming from a Washington, D.C. conviction for manslaughter and use of a firearm in the commission of a crime of violence. U.S. Marshal's Service deputies, in attempting to serve the outstanding warrant for violation of parole, found Dudley in a stolen Jeep Cherokee in Bladensburg, Maryland.

According to the statement of facts, when deputies attempted to surround the stolen vehicle, Dudley rammed his car into a car occupied by two deputies. After the vehicle came to a stop, deputies got out of their vehicles to attempt to arrest Dudley, but Dudley drove at a high rate of speed toward one of the apprehending deputies. After Dudley was wounded by two gunshots, he again attempted to elude arrest, this time driving over the legs of a deputy who was attempting to turn off the ignition of the stolen Jeep.

Dudley drove the vehicle a short distance before crashing into a fire hydrant, staggering out of the vehicle, and being placed under arrest. During a brief hospitalization after the incident, Dudley told guards that he had grown tired of his life and wanted law enforcement officials to kill him.

Dudley faces a potential maximum penalty of 40 years and a fine of up to \$500,000. The sentencing hearing is scheduled for March 17, 2004 at 9:30 a.m.

The case is a result of an investigation by the United States Marshal's Service and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys James M. Trusty and Gina Simms in Greenbelt, Maryland.